

claimed to excuse the claimant for not having resorted to any established legal remedy.

Costs.

SEC. 15. If the Government of the United States shall put in issue the right of the plaintiff to recover the court may, in its discretion, allow costs to the prevailing party from the time of joining such issue. Such costs, however, shall include only what is actually incurred for witnesses, and for summoning the same, and fees paid to the clerk of the court.

Inconsistent laws repealed.

SEC. 16. That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

Approved, March 3, 1887.

Mar. 3, 1887.

CHAP. 360.—An act for the repair and preservation of the road, heretofore constructed by the Government, leading from Vicksburg to the national cemetery adjacent thereto.

Vicksburg, Miss. Appropriation for repairing road to national cemetery.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the sum of ten thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, to be used in the repair and preservation of the road, heretofore constructed by the United States, leading from the city of Vicksburg to the national cemetery adjacent thereto, the same to be expended by the keeper or person in charge of said cemetery, under the direction of the Secretary of War.

Approved, March 3, 1887.

Mar. 3, 1887.

CHAP. 361.—An act to authorize the Louisiana North and South Railroad Company to construct and maintain a bridge across the Red River in Louisiana.

Louisiana North and South Railroad Company authorized to bridge Red River, at Alexandria, La. Railway, wagon, and foot bridge.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Louisiana North and South Railroad Company, a corporation created and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Louisiana, be, and is hereby, authorized to construct and maintain a railway and wagon bridge across the Red River at or near the town of Alexandria, Louisiana, at such point as may be selected by the said railroad company for crossing said river with their railroad line, the said bridge to be so constructed as not to interfere with the navigation of said river, and to be provided with a suitable draw: *Provided,* That any bridge constructed under this act and according to its limitations shall be a lawful structure, and shall be known and recognized as a post-route, and the same is hereby declared to be a post-route, upon which also no higher charge shall be made for the transmission over the same of the mails, the troops, and the munitions of war of the United States, or for through passengers or freight passing over said bridge, than the rate per mile paid for their transportation over the railroads leading to the said bridge; and the United States shall have the right of way for a postal telegraph across said bridge.

*Proviso.* To be a lawful structure and post-route.

Postal telegraph.

Plans, etc., to be approved by Secretary of War.

SEC. 2. That the bridge authorized to be constructed under this act shall be located and built under and subject to such regulations for the security of the navigation of said river as the Secretary of War shall prescribe; and to secure that object the said company or corporation shall submit to the Secretary of War, for his examination and approval, a design and drawings of the proposed bridge, and a map of the location, giving, for the space of one mile above and one mile below the proposed location, the topography of the banks of the river, the shore-lines at high and low water, the direction and strength of the currents, and the soundings, accurately showing the bed of the stream, and shall furnish such other information as may be required for a full and satisfactory understanding of the subject; and until the said plan and location

of the bridge are approved by the Secretary of War no work upon the bridge shall be commenced; and should any change be made in the plan of said bridge during the progress of construction, such change shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

SEC. 3. That Congress reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal this act at any time; and that if at any time navigation of the said river shall in any manner be obstructed or impaired by the said bridge, the Secretary of War shall have authority, and it shall be his duty, to require the said railroad company to alter and change the said bridge at its own expense, in such manner as may be proper to secure free and complete navigation without impediment; and if upon reasonable notice to said railroad company to make such change or improvements the said company fails to do so, the Secretary of War shall have authority to make the same at the expense of said company, and all the rights conferred by this act shall be forfeited; and Congress shall have power to do any and all things necessary to secure the free navigation of the river.

Right to amend, etc., reserved. Not to obstruct navigation.

SEC. 4. That said company shall be permitted to charge and take such rates of toll for crossing said bridge as may be reasonable, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

Tolls.

SEC. 5. That the draw provided for the bridge herein authorized to be constructed shall be opened promptly upon reasonable signal for the passing of boats; and said company or corporation shall maintain, at its own expense, from sunset till sunrise, such lights or other signals on said bridge as the Light-House Board shall prescribe.

Opening draw.

SEC. 6. That all railroad companies desiring the use of said bridge shall have and be entitled to equal rights and privileges relative to the passage of railway trains over the same, and over the approaches thereto, upon payment of a reasonable compensation for such use; and in case the owner or owners of said bridge and the several railroad companies, or any one of them, desiring such use, shall fail to agree upon the sum or sums to be paid, and upon rules and conditions to which each shall conform in using said bridge, all matters at issue between them shall be decided by the Secretary of War, upon a hearing of the allegations and proofs of the parties; and if said bridge is not commenced within two years and completed within four years from the passage of this act, the rights and privileges hereby granted shall be null and void.

Lights.

Other roads may use.

Compensation.

Secretary of War to decide disagreements.

Approved, March 3, 1887.

CHAP. 362.—An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, and for other purposes.

Mar. 3, 1887.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated for the objects hereinafter expressed for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, namely:

Sundry civil appropriations.

UNDER THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Treasury Department.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Public buildings.

For purchase of ground on which to erect public building in Camden, New Jersey, forty-thousand dollars.

Camden, N. J.

For post-office and court-house at Baltimore, Maryland: For continuation of building, two hundred and eighty-seven thousand dollars.

Baltimore, Md.

For custom-house at Charleston, South Carolina: For taking down stone and brick work on east and west porticos, restoring broken balustrade and other broken stone work, and rebuilding the same, including

Charleston, S. C.